AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

On page 2 of the application, please insert the following new paragraph before "BACKGROUND".

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation application claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 to application serial number 10/003,894 filed 10/25/2001, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--

Please replace the paragraph extending from page 9 line 28 to page 9 line 31 with the following.

> --Referring now to FIGURES 2 and 3, a wheel assembly 30 includes a wheel 32, a tire 34, and a retaining flange ring 36. Wheel 32 includes an inner flange 38 for interfacing with a wheel hub (not shown), an outer flange 40, and a web 42 connecting the inner flange to the outer flange and preferably integral with the inner and outer flanges, as illustrated in FIGURE 3.--

Please replace the paragraph extending from page 10 line 8 to page 10 line 20 with the following.

> --As illustrated in FIGURE 3, outer ~~Outer~~ surface 44 is generally parallel to the axis of rotation of the wheel assembly, and includes a first greater diameter portion 50 and a second lesser diameter portion 52. According to the illustration of FIGURE 3, greater diameter portion 50 extends upwardly as an integral part of the outer flange, and as an extension of right side 46, and to the left from the distal edge of side 46, thus to define a portion of the outer surface 44 of the outer flange. The greater diameter portion 50 has a first width "W1" which extends along less than 40 percent of a second overall width "W2" of the outer surface of outer flange 40, and thus along less than 40 percent of the width of wheel 32. Typically, the greater diameter portion 50 extends along about 10 percent to about 30 percent, preferably about 20 percent to about 25

percent, of the width of the wheel. Correspondingly, the lesser diameter portion of the outer surface generally comprises at least 60 percent, up to about 90 percent of the width "W2" of the outer surface, preferably about 70 to about 80 percent, including about 75 percent, of the outer surface.--

Please replace the paragraph extending from page 11 line 6 to page 11 line 12 with the following.

--As illustrated in FIGURE 3, retaining flange ring 36 has an annular first side leg 56 in surface-to-surface contact with side 48 of the outer flange of wheel 32, and a second annular top leg 58 extending perpendicular to the upper edge of side leg 56 and toward a central region of outer surface 44. Top leg 58 includes an interface surface generally following the contour of the outer surface of the outer flange, and terminates at a second abutment surface 60 which abutment surface extends at a perpendicular angle "$\alpha 2$" to the lesser diameter portion, a leg of the angle being disposed between the abutment surface and the center of the outer surface of the outer flange.--

Please replace the paragraph extending from page 12 line 1 to page 12 line 6 with the following.

--Referring especially to FIGURE 3, tire 34 is a non-pneumatic, unitary article. The tire has an exterior which defines an inner surface 66, an outer surface 68, first side surface 70, second side surface 72, and first and second recesses 74 and 76 extending inwardly of the tire between the inner surface and respective ones of the side surfaces. In the illustrated embodiments, and as preferred, the outer surface of the tire defines the entirety of the outer surface of the wheel assembly. As seen in FIGURE 3, in the wheel assembly, side surfaces 70 and 72 of the tire extend in directions corresponding to extensions of the side surfaces of the respective side flanges.--